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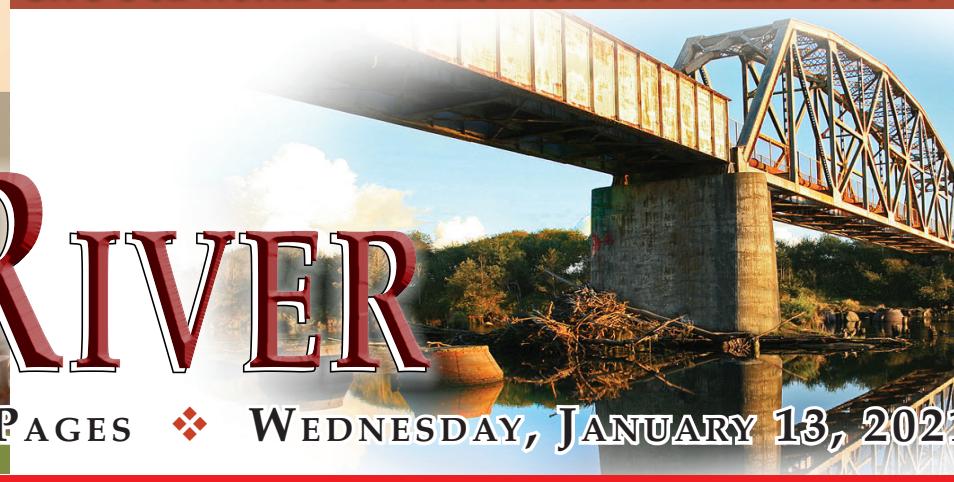
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MAD RIVER

VOL. 8, NO. 17 ♦ 8 PAGES ♦ WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021 ♦ EST. 2013 ♦ \$1

CHOOSE HUMBOLDT RESTAURANT WEEK PAGE 7

MAD RIVER UNION



UNION

HUMCO COVID COUNT, MONDAY, JAN. 11: TESTS 60,528 CASES 2,124 RECOVERED 1,346 HOSPITALIZED 75 DEATHS 23 RISK WIDESPREAD

Widespread outbreak that is growing with many undetected cases. Take strong measures to limit all contact.

McK CSD to study new Trinidad water pipeline

Jack Durham

MAD RIVER UNION

McKINLEYVILLE — McKinleyville will work with its water supplier and tribal authorities to complete a feasibility study on extending a water pipeline to the Trinidad Rancheria.



Joellen Clark-Peterson

The McKinleyville Community Services District (MCSD) Board of Directors voted unanimously Jan. 6 to work with the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD) and the Trinidad Rancheria, with the caveat that the MCSD does not incur any costs.

Representatives of the

HBMWD and the rancheria spoke at the Jan. 6 meeting, but there were no public comments, which came as a surprise to directors due to controversies over the rancheria's plans to build a five-story, 100-room Hyatt Hotel adjacent to its casino and other economic development projects.

MCSD Director Joellen Clark-Peterson said the lack of public comments surprised her, prompting MCSD President Dennis Mayo to respond "There will be in the future. I guarantee it."

Trinidad Rancheria PIPELINE ♦ PAGE 4

CHOOSE HUMBOLDT RESTAURANT WEEK PAGE 7

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021

EST. 2013

\$1

Ebb and flow of COVID vaccines uncertain

Daniel Mintz

MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT — The timing and amounts of initial COVID-19 vaccine shipments to Humboldt County have fulfilled expectations but the county's health officer has said the scale of future availability is uncertain.

In an update at the January 5 Board of Supervisors meeting, Dr. Ian Hoffman, the county's health officer, described vaccines as "the tool that we really feel is going to end this pandemic."

The county's four major hospitals, United Indian Health Services, the Open Door Clinic network and the county's Public Health Branch are giving doses of vaccine to the first eligible group, health care and skilled nursing care workers. That group is estimated to be about 10,000 people.

Hoffman said vaccination partnerships with commercial pharmacies are beginning and County Public Health is launching a three-day-a-week vaccination clinic this week. Its

goal is to vaccinate up to 750 people a week.

The county has received 1,000 to 2,000 vaccine doses a week so far but Hoffman said that when vaccination expands to essential workers and elderly residents, 5,000 to 6,000 doses per week will be needed.

Asked about what the plan is for the next step, he said near future vaccine availability is uncertain.

"We're building this ship as we sail it so it's hard to give you specifics on something we don't know about," said Hoffman. "We don't know how much vaccine we're getting each week so we have to plan according to what we have — what we know we have and what we think we will get."

When larger shipments of vaccine are lined up, "We will definitely start to vaccinate larger numbers of people in a way that is going to require very big clinics," he continued.

The county got its first shipments of a vaccine made by the Pfizer corporation and the BioNTech biotechnol-

ogy company in mid-December and Hoffman said about 5,500 vaccine doses have arrived to date.

About 3,600 of the doses have been administered, he continued. The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine requires two doses given three weeks apart and Hoffman said shipments of the second doses arrived the week of the meeting.

But he added that no additional first doses had been received last week. "There's kind of an ebb and flow of the vaccine," he said. "We expected this to happen — that we might get quantities of the vaccine early on but not as much as we start to see second doses."

He said the vaccine phase for elderly residents and essential workers will probably begin at the end of this month but its capacity is unknown.

"We'll see what that looks like," he continued. "It depends, again, on the number of vaccines that we're given."

The county has also gotten ship-

COVID ♦ PAGE 4

One dead in Manila home blaze

MAD RIVER UNION

MANILA — A man died in a trailer fire Friday night, Jan. 8 on Carlson Drive in Manila. The Arcata Fire District was dispatched to the fire at about 7 p.m. and arrived to find a trailer engulfed in flames.

The fire appears to be accidental, according to AFD Battalion Chief Sean Campbell. The trailer was about 30 feet in length. On learning that there was a man inside the trailer, AFD called the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office for assistance.

"Upon arrival, deputies observed firefighters tending to a travel trailer fire on the property. Deputies learned that while fighting the fire, emergency person-

nel had located a deceased individual inside the burning trailer," states a press release issued by the Sheriff's Office. "Due to the condition of the remains, the

Humboldt County Coroner's Office was not able to immediately confirm identification of the deceased."

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

DUI arrest after chase

MAD RIVER UNION

McKINLEYVILLE — After a high-speed chase down U.S. Highway 101, a woman was arrested early Monday morning, Jan. 11 on suspicion of drunk

driving, driving without a license, evading arrest and violating a court order.

At about 12:45 a.m., Humboldt County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the area of McKinleyville Avenue and Murray Road in McKinleyville for the report of a domestic disturbance.

Deputies arrived in the area and observed a vehicle traveling on Murray Road at a slow rate of speed, with the driver, later identified as 39-year-old Tashina Lachelle Barnett, arguing with a male pedestrian.

Deputies attempted a traffic stop on Barnett's vehicle, at which time the vehicle fled. Deputies initiat-

ed a pursuit of the vehicle, which continued onto U.S. Highway 101 with speeds reaching more than 100 miles per hour.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) responded and took command of the pursuit. During the pursuit, the CHP deployed a spike strip, successfully disabling the vehicle.

Barnett was taken into custody by CHP officers and was booked into the

Humboldt County Correctional Facility on suspicion of evading a peace officer and driving with a suspended license.

Deputies learned that Barnett and the male pedestrian were known to each other and Barnett had an active criminal protective order restraining her from contacting the male pedestrian. Barnett was booked on an additional charge of violating a court order.

Large-scale hemp farming has been under a moratorium

Hemp – banned, but teachable?

Daniel Mintz

MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT — Humboldt County's Planning Commission is advising prohibition of industrial hemp farming but there's a notable exception — College of the Redwoods would be able to cultivate hemp for educational and research purposes.

The viability of industrial hemp in the county's unincorporated areas came under the commission's deliberation at its January 7 meeting. A draft ordinance that makes a temporary moratorium on industrial hemp permanent was supported by commissioners.

Large-scale hemp farming has been under a moratorium

since May 2019 and a current extension expires on May 10.

Before then, planning staff will finalize the ordinance and it will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for definitive approval.

Those who want to cultivate smaller amounts of high-CBD plants for medicinal purposes have been doing so under the county's commercial cannabis ordinance, which was amended last October to make rules easier for smaller-scale farmers.

Hemp farming is controversial because of the risk of cross-pollination and pest exchange with the county's prized crop, conventional high-THC cannabis.

But hemp-derived prod-

ucts have multiple uses and College of the Redwoods has requested and is recommended to receive clearance to start a hemp farm on its greater Eureka area campus on Tompkins Hill Road.

Under the draft ordinance, the school will have to get a special permit for the yet-to-be defined farm. But the campus is in the coastal zone and County Planner Lana Adler said the state's Coastal Commission has concerns about "impacts to coastal resources" and the change of use of the campus area.

Adler said a final version of the hemp ordinance can include performance stan-

HEMP ♦ PAGE 4

Council sets priority goals

MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA — The City Council last week settled on some initial priorities for its annual goal setting sessions, set for late February and March.

The most popular topics among councilmembers were homelessness and housing, mental health and social services, Valley West, economic recovery, and city infrastructure.

The council formed two-member subcommittees to meet with stakeholder groups in advance of the full council hearings.

Goal setting precedes and helps shape annual budget sessions to follow.

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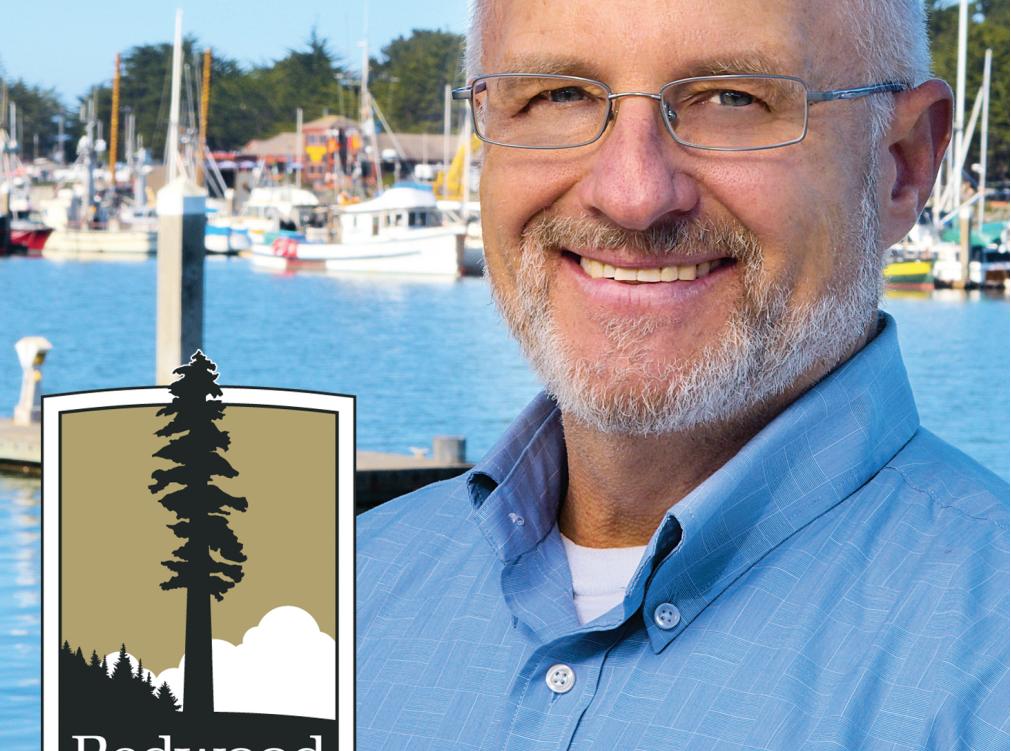
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Community

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Michael McCoy
SVP/Risk Manager



The big changeover in university services proceeds, emphasizing continuity

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

HUMBOLDT STATE – The transition of services managed by University Center is underway. Humboldt State University is working diligently to transition all University Center services effective January 9, with immediate priorities being continuity of services and retaining as many UC employees as possible.

Immediately upon notice of termination last year, HSU met with UC leadership to discuss the transition and priorities. On Dec. 23, Chartwells Higher Education, which is contracted to provide on-campus dining through June 2022, held very productive meetings with UC professional employees and student dining employees, and sent offer letters to all managers and 13 full-time hourly positions.

There will be no reduction in student employment. At this point, all 26 students currently working have received offer letters, and as classes resume more students will be hired.

Staff and student employees were offered compensation and benefits equal to or better than they previously earned from their UC employment.

In addition to dining services, most management and support staff from the UC have been offered stateside positions by the University. HSU Human Resources has been in communication with most active UC employees and has extended offers of employment, and continues to work closely with employees to ensure they understand their options.

The university will maintain all student jobs in non-dining areas like Center Activities and CenterArts.

As the transition continues, Humboldt State's priority is enhancing and expanding the programs and services for students. The university is working on a smooth transition to ensure continuity of services, minimize disruptions for employees, and improve oversight of funds.

The changes now underway follow a decision by California State University and HSU to end the operating agreement with University Center. This decision was due to breaches outlined in the letter of notice. HSU and the UC are working in collaboration to finalize the most current audit.

CSU and HSU notified the University Center Board in September of the intent to end the operating agreement unless the Board could adequately address the breaches. In December, the board was notified that the breaches were not adequately addressed, and that the agreement would be formally ended at the close of business on Jan. 8.

University Center oversees student services including dining, CenterArts, Center Activities, and the contract for the bookstore. HSU is taking on most management and oversight of the services, and will also manage the bookstore contract with Follett. For the typical student, services and programs will either remain the same or be improved.

Staff members from Chartwells are currently in the area working on the transition in dining services. Chartwells is preparing to open Jan. 9, and has been working with several departments and representatives to prepare for a seamless transition.

Chartwells has also worked to secure food distribution beginning Jan. 9 and is working on establishing relation-

ships with local vendors.

Chartwells will continue to onboard employees this week and begin implementation of menu, point-of-sale, and signage updates. Chartwells staff will also be examining and evaluating student meal plans for Fall 2021, which will be announced in February. There will be no price increase for meal plans this year or next.

CenterArts and oversight of the University-owned student union building will be moved to student services. Priorities will include expanding campus programming and events, enhancing the quality and responsiveness of student services, and continuing to offer engaging community programming.

CenterArts emailed patrons in December, sharing that the transition has positive potential for the campus and community.

CenterArts has currently suspended programming due to the pandemic, but is planning a safe return to performances for the 2021-22 season.

Center Activities and oversight of the Student Recreation Center, Humboldt Bay Aquatics Center and the Recreational & Wellness Center will be moved to athletics. These areas will benefit from enhanced offerings to students as well as enhanced operational efficiencies and compliance.

HSU is committed to reimagining and improving important campus and community services, and the responsible management of the student and public funds that allow these services to continue and improve our student experience.

McK CSD to partly pay ridiculous \$2K water bill

MAD RIVER UNION

MCKINLEYVILLE – The McKinleyville Community Services District Board of Directors gave a local couple a break last week after they received a monthly water bill for \$1,947.10. The Hiller Road residents sprung a leak late last year that gushed for about a month before being detected.

"It was a perfect storm," said MCSD Manager Patrick Kaspari at the Jan. 6 MCSD meeting. The residence uses

an average of about 2,992 gallons of water a month, but in October, the usage jumped to 249,832 gallons. That's enough water to fill nearly 38 percent of an Olympic-size swimming pool.

When the district read the meter in September, there may have been a small leak. A short time after the meter reading, the line broke, and leaked, undetected, until the next meter reading in October. The residents were immediately contacted,

the water was shut off and repairs were made.

The MCSD agreed to a 75/25 percent split, with the homeowners paying \$483.48 plus \$13.20 from their regular bill. The MCSD will absorb the rest of the cost. The MCSD manager has authority to make water leak adjustments up to \$750. Adjustments larger than \$750 require approval from the board, which voted unanimously Jan. 6 in favor of the adjustment.

MCKMAC

The McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee holds a special Zoom meeting on the McKinleyville Town Center and wetlands tonight, Wednesday Jan. 13 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Agenda items include public comment; announcements; discuss-

sion/information/action items; a county planning staff presentation of revised draft Town Center wetland policy; presentation of the draft concept plans for the wetlands and open space areas of the Town Center; a MckMAC-led public comment and discussion; MckMAC deliberation and vote on wetland policy; and more. A recording of the Nov. 18, 2020 meeting on the draft wetlands policy is available at humboldtgov.org/2564/McKinleyville-Town-Center-Master-Plan.

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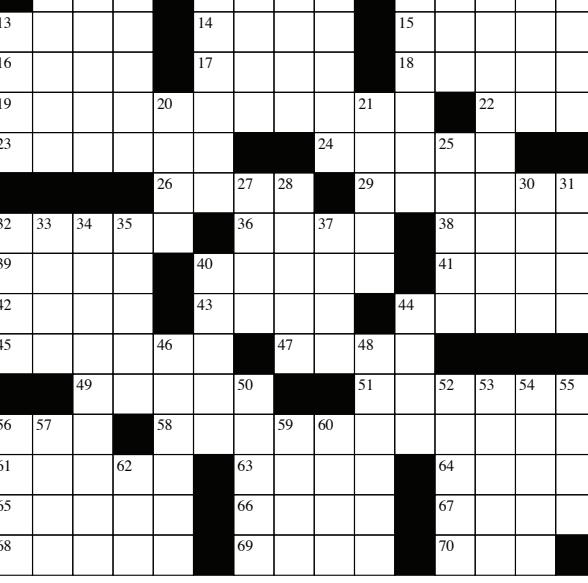
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CROSSWORD

ACROSS	DOWN
1. Title of respect	1. Dinner course
4. Western Indians	2. Cake coating
8. Religious jewelry	3. Novelist Charles __
13. Lineage	4. Disquiet
14. Treehouse?	5. __ off; irritated
15. Papal cape	6. Catch sight of
16. Hipbones	7. Brown weasel
17. Item take back by the seller	8. Bullwinkle's dessert?
18. College credits	9. Harbor scavenger
19. Sweet side dish	10. Milker of peasant times
22. Nonsense	11. Singing voice
23. Trimmers	12. In case
24. Grouchy	13. Asian staple
26. German king (936-973)	20. Small appliance
29. __ up; joined in cooperative activity	21. Passes out
32. Citized	25. Activity that takes two
36. Suffix for deliver or annoy	27. Of great height
38. Notorious party member	28. Odorous item
39. Means of transportation	30. Follower of II Chronicles
40. Assumed name	31. Herb
41. Young female	32. Former nation: abbr.
42. Poison remedies	33. Korean president (1948-60)
43. Story line	34. Swallow spas
44. Like a knotty protuberance	35. Quickly
45. Railroad employee	37. Marcus Porcius __
47. Musical symbol	40. Granny Smith, for one
49. Outlaw Starr	44. Singing Diamond
51. Theater walkways	46. Modifies
55. Italian friar	48. Reason to have your teeth cleaned
58. Choice cuts of beef	50. Go into
61. Shaping machine	52. Musical numbers
63. Wrongful act	53. Climbing plant
64. Final	54. Follow as a result of
65. Word with each or every	55. Certain jets: abbr.
66. Actress Samms	56. Whip
67. Burden	57. __-tat-tat
68. Struggles to breathe	59. Capitol building's roof
69. Tush	60. Late writer Bombeck
70. Enclosure sent with a manuscript: abbr.	62. With it, slantly



It's that other Humboldt shelter that has problems

Week 42. First, a clarification. While we like to think of Humboldt as a wonderfully unique part of the world, it turns out there are Humboldts in a few other places also. Nevada has a Humboldt County (county seat Winnemucca) and Tennessee has a city of Humboldt.

In that city of Humboldt, Tenn., there is an animal shelter which is regularly accused of appalling conditions and even animal cruelty.

Each time there is an abuse at that shelter, we hear about it at our Humboldt County Shelter, usually from people who want to call the shelter or message the Facebook page with expletives and threats.



You can believe me when I say that our shelter is clean and warm with caring staff and volunteers. Those abuses are not happening here. We certainly share the concern of animal lovers everywhere who are horrified by stories of animal abuse, especially at the hands of people who are supposed to be protecting those same animals.

We wish it were as simple as adding "California" to our Facebook name, but the problem is really at the other end of the equation. People are not looking at our Facebook

page when they read that Humboldt Animal Control officers are accused of beating a dog to death.

Again, rest assured that our Animal Control officers and shelter staff have the best interests of the dogs and cats in mind.

Now that I have cleared that up, I'd like to tell you about Wes, one of the canine residents at our nice Humboldt County Animal Shelter. Wes is guesstimated

to be a Lab mix of about 7 years old. He and his buddy Cowboy arrived at the shelter after a neighbor let Animal Control know that the dogs seemed to have been left behind when their owners moved. Fortunately both dogs were able to adjust to the new situation and move on.

Wes has been making friends right and left with the volunteers who appreciate how easy

he is to walk and what an affectionate guy he is. Wes is a sweet fellow who loves treats – hasn't met one he doesn't like yet – and is easy to train. He checks out passing cars as if looking for his old people, but is happy to completely ignore them in favor of a little snack!

In the play yard he might chase a thrown ball for a minute though he much prefers to thoroughly sniff the area and then come over for neck rubs and pets.

Wes will make an affectionate and attentive

companion for his adopter! Just this week Wes went in for a cat test. The cat he met took a good swat at him and he didn't react at all. We feel that he could live with a feline roommate.

Wes is neutered, micro-chipped and current on his vaccinations. He weighs in at

about 80 pounds, though he is not all that big, just solid.

To meet cuddly Wes, please call the shelter at (707) 840-9132 for an appointment. The shelter's regular schedule is Monday through Friday, though they will be closed next Monday for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



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A message to families about

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE

Enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year has begun.

For those interested in obtaining an interdistrict transfer, please contact your school district of residence to begin the process.

The application deadline for the 2021-2022 school year is February 1, 2021.

For more information, contact your school district of residence. If you are unsure of your district of residence, visit hcoe.org/district-locator.

 Humboldt County Office of Education

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- Our Helpful crew is taking extra steps to wash and sanitize their hands and work areas, and are asked to stay home if they do not feel well.

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❖ SECOND OF TWO PARTS

2020 a COVID-19 roller coaster amid infection, death and a new vaccine

Daniel Mintz

MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT — On Oct. 7, the county was moved into the state's yellow or minimal risk tier. Indoor capacity limits on a variety of businesses were loosened, including bars and fitness centers.

October saw strings of days with minimal or no new cases.

The apparent respite from the disease's grasp was short-lived. In November, coronavirus did what it had done in other places in the country and the world.

Its spread surged, with 88 cases confirmed in the first 13 days of November, double the number of cases in the entire month of October.

Now cases weren't connected to ongoing contact tracing investigations and because some infected people show no symptoms, the virus' presence was partly covert.

"The safest course of action is to assume anyone you interact with could have the virus," Ennis said in a press release.

Three weeks into November, the county's case rate had tripled and the total number of cases reached 730. On Nov. 24, a day that saw the confirmation of 17 more local cases, the state placed Humboldt in the purple or widespread COVID-19 risk tier.

Bars closed again and outdoors-only operation was ordered for restaurants, family entertainment centers, fitness centers and places of worship. Indoor capacities were reduced in retail businesses and the state's 10 p.m. curfew was put into effect.

Thanksgiving Danger: Disease spread at an unprecedented pace nationally, state-

wide and locally. And another lever of case growth was at hand.

No other holiday is as gathering-oriented as Thanksgiving. It impacts would be seen in December, compounding an already-intense surge.

Thanksgiving week saw confirmation of 122 more cases, bringing the county's case total to 850. The hospitalization total was at 43.

It was worse elsewhere in the state. California's COVID-19 hospitalizations had doubled since mid-November. Los Angeles was in lockdown and there had been more than 19,000 deaths in the state, including nine in Humboldt.

The troubling trends led the state to launch another new system for imposing restrictions. In early December, regional ICU bed availability of less than 15 percent was set as a restriction threshold.

Central and southern regions hit zero ICU capacity as the month proceeded, while the northern region maintained a bed availability rate of about 25 percent.

'Spreading easily'

December would be the virus' most productive month. In its first week, the county announced that the local COVID-19 case total surpassed 1,000 cases, with a count of 1,014.

The county's new health officer, Dr. Ian Hoffman, began work in the midst of fast-accelerating disease spread.

In a Dec. 4 video, Hoffman said the virus was "spreading easily in our community" and it was doing so in every part of the county.

The high stakes made refusal to wear masks a flashpoint of conflict. Asked about enforcing the state's masking mandate at the

Dec. 8 Board of Supervisors meeting, Sheriff William Honsal said doing so "could force a deadly force confrontation, who knows, and over what?"

Deputies were also busy trying to keep up with a crime wave. Honsal told supervisors that "escalating violent acts" and "escalating crime" were erupting countywide.

The disease surge included an outbreak at the Granada Rehabilitation & Wellness Center in Eureka, where dozens of residents and staff members were infected.

By December's end, 10 elderly residents of the facility had died of COVID-19 and the county's total death count was 22. The case total reached 1,764 with 66 hospitalizations.

First shot

Two weeks before the year ended, a new and revolutionary vaccine technology got a partial launch nationwide and locally. The county's first shot of a vaccine made by the Pfizer pharmaceutical corporation and the BioNTech biotechnology company was given to a Mad River Community Hospital health care supervisor.

By Christmas, all 975 doses of the vaccine had been injected into health care workers in hospitals and clinics across the county. Shipments of thousands more doses followed, including a second vaccine made by the Moderna biotech company.

The year's end also saw a surprise action from the state as Humboldt was downgraded into the less restrictive red tier. Hoffman objected to the reassignment, which was based on diversity of services and gave the county the questionable status of being the

only one in the state not in the purple tier.

In a Dec. 30 media availability video, Hoffman was asked why he didn't impose a local health order maintaining purple tier restrictions. He said local application of restrictions is a "very strong" action and "it's one that there isn't much enthusiasm for right now in our community."

Ultimately, he continued, it will be up to residents and business managers to choose whether or not to control the virus through their behavior.

New Year's strain

A mutated, more contagious strain of coronavirus was linked to infections in southern California, Colorado and Florida as the New Year began.

Although the case growth implications are concerning, medical experts say the variant strain is unlikely to interfere with vaccine efficacy.

The CDC concurs but says the virus' resistance to vaccines, though mostly believed to be "unlikely," is a future possibility because "once a large proportion of the population is vaccinated, there will be immune pressure that could favor and accelerate emergence of such variants."

The capability of COVID-19 vaccines will be better known beginning in the spring of 2021, when they're expected to become generally available. New Year's Day had a particular significance given the hardships of 2020. They will continue into 2021.

Epidemiologists predict a vaccine-induced end to widespread coronavirus infections but this month and next are foreseen as the pandemic's worst.

Pipeline | Request

❖ FROM PAGE 1

Chief Executive Officer Jacque Hostler-Carmesin told the board that it is imperative that the rancheria obtain water for the general welfare of the tribe and for its economic development projects.

The Trinidad Rancheria receives its water from the City of Trinidad. However, when the rancheria requested additional water for its hotel project, the Trinidad City Council did not approve the request. Instead, it directed the Trinidad Planning Commission to create a policy for new water requests. Councilmembers have said they don't think the city has enough water for the project, particularly in drought years.

This prompted Tribal Chair Garth Sundberg last year to request that the HBMWD consider supplying the rancheria. In December, HBMWD Manager John Friedenbach wrote a letter to the MCSD asking that it participate in the study.

The HBMWD is the wholesale water supplier to McKinleyville, Arcata, Eureka, Cutten, Manila, Blue Lake and Fieldbrook.

The HBMWD would sell water directly to the rancheria, but would use McKinleyville's pipelines, which extend to the Dow's Prairie area.

Friedenbach noted that the district has 65 million gallons a day of excess water that it doesn't use. Some of that water was once used by the pulp mills that existed on the Samoa Peninsula.

Hostler-Carmesin has said that water is needed for the tribe's future economic development projects, which include a proposed RV park, mini-mart, a gas station, a cultural and community center, a visitor center and housing.

COVID | 'We are moving forward'

❖ FROM PAGE 1

ments of a second vaccine, made by the Moderna biotech company, which is being administered to health care workers in outpatient facilities due to its more conventional refrigeration requirements.

Sheriff Billy Honsal said he's been informed that general public availability of vaccines is still six to nine months away, which he said is "kind of shocking to me."

The meeting was the first for just-seated Second District Supervisor Michelle Bushnell, who asked Hoffman about vaccinating essential workers like teachers and the procedure for resuming classroom instruction at schools.

The county was recently downgraded to a lower state risk tier despite rising case numbers. Going back into the state's highest tier is likely and will affect school activities.

"I want to make sure that everyone understands where things are headed," said Hoffman. "The more teachers that are vaccinated, the better we'll feel about getting those teachers back into the classrooms."

At this point, there is no vaccine available for those under the age of 16.

Bushnell also asked whether a vaccine sign-up effort can be done countywide. Hoffman said it's unlikely at this point because the county doesn't know what the vaccine availability will be for the next phase.

Vaccinations are continuing as new and more contagious strains

of the virus emerge in multiple countries, including the U.S.

A strain that is circulating widely in the U.K. is causing infections in areas of California.

Another variant originally detected in South Africa has more mutations in the coronavirus spike protein and greater potential for evading immunity.

The new strains are just beginning to be studied and during a Jan. 7 media availability interview, Hoffman was asked how much confidence people should have in the capability of vaccines.

"I'm still confident and we are moving forward with this vaccine process and our plan is to continue to vaccinate all of Humboldt County over the course of this year," he said.

He reported that information on the county's vaccine quantities and administration will probably be added to the COVID-19 website dashboard this week.

Generally updating the situation, Hoffman said the "vast majority" of the county's COVID cases at this point are from contacts with household members and friends.

Hoffman said that "I feel, as each day goes on, more confident" that the county will be moved back into the state's purple or highest risk tier this week.

Last week saw 271 new cases, bringing the county's total to 2,031. With seven new hospitalizations, the county's total is at 73. An additional death brought that total to 23.

Hemp | Training program

❖ FROM PAGE 1

She said a non-profit group has selected her store "to be a landmark on the historical cannabis trail of Northern California" as the first hemp store to open in the U.S.

During a public comment period Ross Gordon of the Humboldt County Growers Alliance supported the recommended ordinance.

There was also support for allowing industrial hemp. Benjamin Grant, who identified himself as a hemp researcher, acknowledged that cross-pollination and pests are "potential threats" but "those aren't problems that we can't solve."

He said those concerns can be addressed by limiting hemp production to female plants for medicinal CBD production.

On CR's plans, he said he applauds the research and education goals but questioned the training of hemp farming in a county that doesn't accept it. "To educate the workforce to grow hemp but actually only work in a cannabis market — that's disingenuous," he said.

Marie Mills, co-owner of the Hemp Connection retail store in Garberville, described the draft ordinance as "very disturbing" and said there should be "a way for marijuana and hemp growers to work together."

Mills said she supports CR's plans and wants to promote hemp education herself.

She said a non-profit group has selected her store "to be a landmark on the historical cannabis trail of Northern California" as the first hemp store to open in the U.S.

She asked if she could grow a small number of hemp plants on the patio of her store. Planning Director John Ford said it's allowable because small-scale commercial cannabis rules don't distinguish between CBD and THC and personal use rules allow cultivation of up to six plants or 100 square feet of growing area on parcels less than an acre.

Larger growing areas are allowable on larger parcels under the personal use regulations.

No one from CR joined the online meeting. Supervising Planner Michael Richardson said CR was asked to provide details on its hemp farming aspirations but "they're not quite ready to define their program yet."

Commissioner Brian Mitchell said that industrial-scale hemp farming is "incompatible and a danger to the industry that we have worked so hard to develop here" and made a motion in support of the draft ordinance.

The motion limited the CR exemption to its Tompkins Hill Road campus, with the size of growing area to be determined later. The school has several sites, including a farm in Shively.

Barefaced COVID deniers engulf retail wage earners in their biohazard blizzard

• Sunday, December 20 3:32 a.m.

A bear was reported roaming the roadway near a Trinidad casino.

7:26 a.m.

An H Street upstairs-downstairs tenant dispute

devolved into someone "jumping on the ceiling." Wait, what?

5:29 p.m.

A friendly, tagless Husky wandered into a Valley West store, its origins and backstory unknown.

• Monday, December 21 9:05 a.m.

Any old galoot can now say they're PG&E and expect doors to open for them, literally. One such utility fauxpresentative in a plaid shirt asked a Ninth Street

er to open up her garage for his important work, but didn't have any kind of badge and generally didn't seem to be PG&E-grade material. He next waddled down to the alley behind the bars to pursue his inquiries.

9:06 a.m.

OK, so your begging station is the auto entrance to the business, whatever. But the legs out in the driveway: problem. Moved along.

3:10 p.m.

A gutted safe was dumped at the Corp Yard on

South G Street.

4:20 p.m.

A woman who placed

"several wheelbarrows full of

property" on a G Street sidewalk

thence serenaded passersby with

unsolicited yelling.

Through streets broad

and narrow, her cockles and mussels were all

moved along.

5:03 p.m.

When a guy stole a Northtown burrito shop's iPad, one

of the chefs paused his

culinary artistry long

enough to chase him

down and retrieve the tablet.

8:55 p.m.

Northtown nightlife

kicked off with two men peeing

on a house at 16th and G streets,

thence embarking on a mobile

mouth-breather disturb-a-thon

that wound across the street and

down the way.

• Tuesday, December 22

12:45 a.m.

A man called from

a variety store across the street

from the cop shop to notify police

that he could hear someone

crying a mile away at Humboldt

State, where children were climb-

ing power poles. Good to know.

12:53 a.m.

Interrupted mid-way

into a Boyd Road gas-siphoning

heist, the culprit strode briskly

away into a wooded area, leaving

a hose dangling flaccidly from the dinosaur

OPINION

❖ Sign your letter to the *Mad River Union* with a real name and a city of origin, plus a phone number (which won't be published) for identity verification and send it to opinion@madriverunion.com.

Educators consider lessons learned from Capitol riot

January 8, 2021

Dear Community,

Many of us within the Northern Humboldt Administrator's Collaborative are writing today as educators, leaders, caregivers, and community members. The events that occurred in the Nation's Capitol on Wednesday were profoundly disturbing.

Educators and Board Members commit to uphold the Constitution and protect it from all enemies, foreign and domestic. We condemn the attacks we saw earlier this week, and any further efforts to use violence to impede our democracy.

This is a frightening moment for children, youth, and adults alike. However, we make the commitment to support each other through this moment. This includes: giving space for the big emotions that accompany vio-

❖ LETTER OF THE WEEK

lence, encouraging honest dialogue about the events that led to this moment, and supporting those who lead with integrity in times of crisis. These actions will enable us to continue to deepen the support for our students, staff, and families through what has truly been a difficult year.

Of particular concern is the stark contrast between these events and the Black Lives Matter protests over the summer. It is alarming to compare this storming of the Capitol with the June 1, 2020 violent removal of peaceful protesters from Lafayette Square, just a few blocks away.

We cannot and will not pretend that the law has been applied consistently; to do so would be a disservice to our students and

families from their many backgrounds, experiences, and educations. We commit to deepening our work toward racial equity in our schools.

As educators, we pledge to work together to tell accurate, complete histories of our nation – including its darkest days – to inspire the next generation of leadership. We pledge to teach critical analysis and rigorous, non-violent debate so we can better understand one another and our nation. And we pledge to care for the emotional needs of our students, families, and staff to the best of our ability in this harrowing moment.

And finally, we want to speak directly to our students. We are sorry that you must deal with this in the midst of the already dis-

ruptive pandemic. We want you to know that we are committed to your safety, your education, and your future. We will continue to support you and encourage you to reach out to a trusted staff member and/or our counseling services if this moment is impacting you deeply.

For more resources on how to talk with youth about stressful political events in 2020 and 2021, please visit the National Association of School Psychologists site at buff.ly/399CVog.

Sincerely,

Luke Biesecker

Superintendent, Arcata School

District

Linda Row

Superintendent/Principal, Big

Lagoon Union School District

DeAnn Waldvogel

Superintendent/Principal, Blue

Lake Union Elementary School

District

Justin Wallace

Superintendent/Principal, Fieldbrook Elementary School District

Melanie Nannizzi

Superintendent/Principal, Jacoby Creek School District

Wendy Orlandi

Superintendent/Principal, Maple Creek School District

Heidi Moore-Guyup

Superintendent, McKinleyville Union School District

Roger Macdonald

Superintendent, Northern Humboldt Union High School District

Rene McBride

Superintendent, Pacific Union School District

Lark M. Doolan

Superintendent/Principal, Peninsula Union School District

Alyse Nichols

Superintendent/Principal, Trinidad Union School District

Constitutionally speaking...

It will come as no surprise, to many of you, that I attended UC Berkeley in the 1960s. There I studied History, English, Philosophy, Comparative Religion and Political Science. I only mention this to explain why I have, in my bookcase, a copy of the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation and the Constitution of the United States. I have had occasion to refer to this book quite often, lately.

January 6, 2021... what a day. We had rallies, protests, marches, riots, insurrection, domestic terrorism and yes, treason. All of these things were promoted and sanctioned by the sitting President of the United States. People died, four by last count, all of them in the commission of felonious acts. How stupid do you have to be to climb through a destroyed security window in the U.S. Capitol Building and not expect to get shot? What did these people think would be the results of their actions? So now we can add felony murder charges to the above crimes. If you do not know the "Felony Murder" rule, look it up.

So many things went wrong yesterday, so many that it will take weeks to sort out the charges and yet as of this writing only 26 people had been arrested. You all know, the world knows, if these had been people of color, hundreds would be dead and many more incarcerated.

If these were people of color they would not have been taking "selfies" with Capitol Police or in the offices of the leadership or on the floor of the Senate. Most of these people flunked protest rule number 1, they showed their faces. They were proud of what they had done and had no fear of reprisals. One idiot woman, interviewed by a reporter said they did not go far enough "We should have dragged the senators out of the building by their hair" and then what lady? Public beatings, Public hangings?

There have been incidents in the U.S. chambers before, but none as bad as this. The Congress reconvened and finished their work. But there are 121 Congressmen and seven Senators that still don't get it... words have consequences! Less than 20 days from now there will be a new and dif-

❖ LETTERS

ferent administration. There will be new sheriffs in town, in the Justice Department and in the FBI. Those guys in suits sighted yesterday milling among the rioters, were FBI taking close-up pictures of the perps.

Let there be consequences. Let there be justice. And for God's sake get those people out of Washington, D.C.

Thank you for listening,
Jan Phelps
Arcata

KMUD has become a hive of crackpots

As a longtime listener of Southern Humboldt's KMUD Redwood Community Radio, I am earnestly encouraging the residents of Northern Humboldt County to stop donating to KMUD and begin raising money for the collective creation of a true community radio station in Northern Humboldt worth listening to, unlike the former NPR knockoff KHSU (R.I.P.).

Problem No. 1 at KMUD is the apparent lack of quality control by station management in regards to their often unhinged, delusional, fact-free conspiracy theory garbage barely passing as public affairs and political programming. Yes, as you may have heard, KMUD is in fact crazy.

Don't get me wrong. There are numerous non-conspiratorial shows on KMUD that are compelling and well-crafted, but there is no question that KMUD is in desperate need of a programming overhaul and a generational reboot. (Or as young folks say, OK Boomer.)

KMUD should kick its mentally feeble, overly paranoid people to the curb for the station's sake and revise its lineup which now unnecessarily and inexplicably includes multiple hosts obsessed with a crackpot of craziness like QAnon and 5G conspiracies, anti-vaxxer nonsense, baseless GMO-phobia, black helicopter sightings, anti-Semitic racist ramblings about international bankers, and calls for moronic militant mob violence against business-

es and government employees and against anyone else who doesn't toe their laughable lunatic line.

For some strange reason, the lunatics are running the asylum at KMUD, and this sad situation has only become worse in recent years (except for their still excellent news department). Speaking of their news department, former two-term Humboldt County Supervisor Estelle Fennell successfully ran KMUD's news department for 17 years. And how did KMUD reward Democrat Estelle Fennell for her many years of service to the little pot-funded radio station in Redway?

In 2016, perhaps the most irrational, idiotic host on KMUD's airwaves – Bud Rogers, chem trail enthusiast - ran against Estelle Fennell for Second District Supervisor and thankfully Rogers lost to Fennell by over 50 percent. And while Rogers was a declared political candidate running against Fennell, Rogers was misusing KMUD's airwaves to promote his own political candidacy in direct violation of station policy against hosts using their shows to endorse political candidates. Rogers was endorsing himself.

I contacted KMUD management at the time and suggested Bud Rogers take a temporary break from the airwaves while he was actively campaigning for office, which Rogers eventually did involuntarily. Still though, the idea that it took a phone call from a lowly listener like me to get KMUD management to pay attention to its own policies was less than encouraging.

Then in 2020, a kooky KMUD engineer named Michael McKaskle challenged Estelle Fennell in the primary election and McKaskle was rejected by the voters even more harshly than Bud Rogers was!

Crackpot McKaskle is fond of using the station's airwaves to angrily insist upon the innocence of former KGB Lieutenant Colonel Vladimir Putin and his murderous Russian dictatorship as supposedly blameless for any of America's recent Trump troubles.

Now in large part because of KMUD giving so much free air time to greedy local yokels bizarrely blaming Estelle Fennell personally for marijuana legalization decreasing their drug-dealing profits, Fennell

narrowly lost her re-election bid in November to a Chamber of Commerce Republican named Michelle Bushnell who is now your new Second District county supervisor, Southern Humboldt.

Sincerely,
Jake Pickering
Arcata

Wise words for Biden

I was recently drawn to PBS News commentator Mark Shields's response when asked for the basis of his political philosophy. He cited the 2nd sentence of this excerpt from FDR's 1937 inauguration speech.

"We are determined to make every American citizen the subject of his country's interest and concern; and we will never regard any faithful law-abiding group within our borders as superfluous. The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little."

Together, I find these two lines express a philosophy totally unlike President Trump's. Trump favors exclusion. He has consistently fought against protections for "Dreamers," undocumented migrants who arrived in the U.S. as children. And he has often spoken out against Mexican and Moslem immigrants as well as those from countries he deems less than desirable.

Trump's domestic policies favor the "haves" over the "have nots." His Tax Reform Bill disproportionately benefits the very rich and large corporations. And he has an obsession with killing the ACA (Obamacare) which provides health care coverage for otherwise uninsured millions.

Soon President-elect Joe Biden will give his inauguration speech. He will get an opportunity to present a new direction for leadership.

When it comes to the government's treatment of all of us as individuals, citizens or not, I think Biden would be hard pressed to improve on the wise old words of FDR.

Sherman Schapiro
Eureka

Who's who at the new 2021 HSU, and why they do what they do

Dear Campus Community,

As higher education administrators, we have the privilege of working with incredible staff and faculty, but the most fulfilling and important part of our roles is being stewards of state and university resources, and having a part in providing leadership to provide a stellar student experience and to prepare our future leaders.

As first generation college students, we understand the profound impact and transformation that a quality education and student experience has on the lives of our students. Every day, we show up and lead with that perspective in mind and with great conviction.

We are at a watershed moment in terms of delivering quality student services at HSU. The changes in the programs now overseen by University Center present an opportunity to resolve concerns that have been expressed over many years by students, faculty, staff, elected student officials, and members of the community. We do not take lightly the termination of the UC operating agreement by the CSU and HSU.

Yet, we remain committed to providing the most robust student experience possible by working in collaboration across divisions, with students and our partners to deliver a vibrant and thriving student experience. We will emphasize student-first programming, enhanced services, more hours of operations and greater accessibility for students to learn, engage, and connect. In addition, we have the op-

portunity to reimagine the student center and make it the heart of the campus life for our students.

Tomorrow marks the beginning of HSU managing services formerly managed by the University Center. HSU is excited to lead the transformation of services delivered to our students, faculty, staff, and community. We are grateful for the diligence and perseverance of our team members who worked assiduously to make this transition happen. They include, but are not limited to:

Enrollment Management

- Wendy Sotomayor, UC Executive Director
- Todd Larsen, Director of Housing Operations
- Steve St. Onge, Interim AVP for Student Success
- Administration and Finance
- Amber Blakeslee, University Budget Director
- Tawny Fleming, Director of Procurement and Contracts
- David Montoya, AVP for Human Resources
- Scott Kasper, Employee Relations and Compliance Manager
- Eric Palma, Compensation and Classification Manager
- Nicole Log, Recruitment Manager
- Alexis Collins, Payroll Officer
- Elizabeth Whitchurch, Director of Facilities Operations
- Sandy Wieckowski, Associate Director, Student Financial Services
- Cris Kozerca, Interim Director of Risk & Emergency Management

Academic Affairs

- Josh Callahan, Information Security Officer and CTO

University Advancement

- Kristen Gould, Director of Marketing

- Grant Scott-Goforth, Public Information Officer

We have created the UC Transition Fact Sheet to provide substantive detail regarding the transition with respect to the transition of student and professional employees, Dining, CenterArts, Center Activities, and the physical building operation. Further, this document provides details about the campus union fee, the operational deficit, and other budget details. Finally, this document discusses other nuances of the transition and clarifies priorities for the reimagining of the operations to create a student center that will bolster the campus experience for years to come.

We are committed to continued engagement and providing important updates to our many stakeholders about this important transition, and look forward to working with our students and our teams to transition the operation, improve efficiencies, and reimagine service delivery to our students and other stakeholders. Sincerely,

Jason L. Meriwether, Ph.D., Vice President of Enrollment Management

Sherie C. Gordon, Chief of Staff and Interim Vice President for Administration & Finance

Jane Teixeira, J.D., Director of Intercollegiate Athletics & Recreational Sports

SCENE



SPECTACULAR SUNSETS Visions of a Happy 2021 from Martha Sue Davis and Bill Nelson, who reside near Patrick's Point State Park.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Scholarships for high school students

Martha Sue Davis, scholarship chairman for Trinidad Civic Club, announces that the Carmen and James Kidder scholarship applications are open to high school

students who plan to graduate in June, who live between Orick and McKinleyville, and who attend a Humboldt area high school.

There are two \$1,000 awards for ac-

ademic excellence and trade school-bound students. The awards also are open to post-high school graduates who plan to pursue a one or two-year educational program beyond high school.

The filing period is between January to March 12. Learn more about these opportunities and download an application on the Trinidad Civic Club website at trinidadcivicclub.org/projects/service-projects.

Email Patti at baycity@sonic.net.

A boost for local artists and art

INK PEOPLE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

HUMBOLDT – The Ink People Center for the Arts is elated to announce the winners of the 2020 Funds for Artists' Resilience (FAR) public arts grants.

Inspired by the Works Progress Administration public arts project of the 1930s, FAR is an initiative that makes grants to artists who have experienced hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic, empowering them to produce art that inspires the community.

FAR awarded eight grants between \$2,000 and \$5,000 to proposals for works of public art in Humboldt, Del Norte and Trinity counties. It is made possible by the Humboldt Area Foundation, the Wild Rivers Foundation, the Rose Perenin Foundation, and individual donors.

Libby Maynard, executive director of the Ink People Center for the Arts, said "We are grateful to our funders, who have made this program possible, and we are happy to be able to employ artists to help our communities heal. These artworks will be available for many years to celebrate our resilience. They will also be available digitally on our website, inkpeople.org."

In 2020 FAR issued a call for public art proposals expressing themes of equity and resilience. Five projects from Humboldt County were selected.

Margaret Kellermann's award will make it possible for her to work with collaborators to develop and pro-



TAIKO drummer Gary Ronne, a FAR 2020 grant awardee for his proposal "Taiko Love Collaboration."

PHOTO BY JAMES LAMPING

duce her audiobook *Annie California*, addressing the experience of homelessness and resilience in California from the perspective of a 10-year old girl.

Project REBOUND, created by Benjamin Funke and collaborators, will revitalize area basketball courts with vividly colored murals based on community-sourced design.

The *J Street Regulars' Radio Hour*, proposed by James Zeller and collaborators from the Sanctuary Arcata, will fund new episodes of the live streamed radio show featuring experimental acoustic music.

"Taiko Love Collaboration," by Gary Ronne and members of Humboldt Taiko, will instruct community members in the art of Taiko drumming and

engage them in socially distanced public performances.

"The Gestation Project," created by Taylor Snowberger, will fund an exhibition in Eureka of artworks about childbearing and climate change made by artists who have decided not to have children in response to the climate crisis.

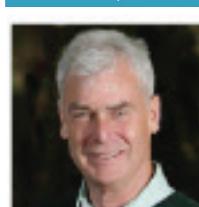
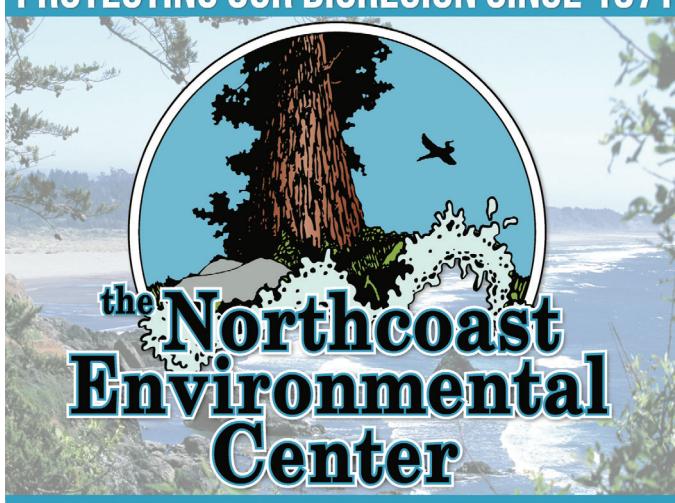
The Ink People partnered with the Del Norte Association for Cultural Awareness (DNACA) to award two grants in Del Norte County. Grant recipients Jessica Slayton and Leila Moore will be creating a mural on a shipping container destined for use as a community farm stand and tool lending library at Food Forest for the Community on the College of the Redwoods' Del Norte campus.

Julie Smiley will be working with Harrington House, a nonprofit shelter for abuse victims, to create art for an exhibition of artworks addressing the concepts of "I contribute worth" and "I am worthy" at the Del Norte Court House Lobby.

The Ink People worked with the Trinity County Arts Council to award a grant to a Trinity County project led by Karli Elliott that will bring a mural painting to the Hayfork Town Square.

inkpeople.org/far

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❖ ONLINE LECTURE

Raptors, rats & rodenticide

FRIENDS OF THE ARCATA MARSH

ARCATA – Because the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center remains closed to visitors, monthly lectures sponsored by Friends of the Arcata Marsh (FOAM) will be delivered via Zoom. Tune in at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 15 for a presentation by HSU Master's candidate Jaime Carlini titled "Rat Poison Is Wildlife Poison."

Rodenticide use is pervasive worldwide and its costs to rodent-consuming wildlife species, as well as pets and children, are high. Carlini, who is studying Barn Owls in Napa vineyards, is a founder of the local chapter of RATS (Raptors Are The Solution), a nonprofit organization working with NGOs, agencies, scientists, municipalities, and individuals to eliminate toxic rodenticides from the food web and educate the public about the harmful effects of widespread use of these poisons and the ecological role of rodent-consuming wildlife species such as raptors.

Hatching HUM-RATS in 2019 was inspired by Carlini's passion for raptors and her desire to effect positive change for wildlife in and beyond Humboldt County.

Carlini will start with a brief overview of rodenticides and their effects on a variety of nontarget species, then describe what RATS and HUM-RATS are doing to address this issue, and provide information about how to manage rodent issues without using poisons.



LEARN ABOUT THESE A Great-horned owl with gopher. PHOTO BY JOE GALKOWSKI.

A question-and-answer session will follow the presentation. This talk will be recorded and posted online for future viewing.

Those wishing to receive an email notification announcing when any FOAM-sponsored Zoom presentations are posted should send a request to sueleskiw1@gmail.com. (FOAM members, volunteers, and attendees of past lectures will automatically receive such notifications.)

The Zoom meeting ID is 208 672 0150.

Heal the planet with beavers

SEQUOIA PARK ZOO

HUMBOLDT – Sequoia Park Zoo Conservation Lecture Series continues Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. on Zoom and Facebook Live.

Environmental journalist Ben Goldfarb will present, "Partnering with Beavers to Heal the Planet."

Zoo updates and information will begin at 6:45 p.m. with the lecture starting at 7 p.m. promptly. As a security feature, lecture attendees are required to have a free registered Zoom account available online at Zoom. us. Prepare ahead of the lecture by logging in and creating your personal Zoom account.

On the date of the lecture, simply log in to your Zoom account and then click the provided Zoom link at SequoiaParkZoo.net or on our social media.

Virtual lecture attendees

can ask questions to the speaker at the end of the presentation via the chat box on Zoom or Facebook Live comments. Special thanks to Papa & Barkley for sponsoring the Conservation Lecture Series!

In his book *Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter*, Goldfarb reveals that our modern conception of a healthy aquatic ecosystem is wrong, distorted by the fur trade that once trapped out millions of beavers from North America's waterways.

The consequences of losing beavers were profound: ponds drained, wetlands dried up, and species from salmon to

swans lost vital habitat.

Today, a growing coalition of "Beaver Believers" – including scientists, ranchers, and passionate citizens – recognizes that ecosystems with beavers are far healthier than those without them. From the Nevada deserts to the Scottish Highlands, Beaver Believers are hard at work restoring these industrious rodents to their former haunts.

In his talk, Goldfarb will discuss the history of this world-changing species; how beavers can help us fight drought, flooding, wildfire, and climate change; and how we can coexist with this crucial but occasionally challenging species.



Ben Goldfarb

CalBRE #01144618
NMLS #323296

Drive-through COVID testing at Azalea Hall

No one can say that 2021 didn't start off with a bang. There are a few idiots that think their neighbors would enjoy mortar fire long into the night from illegal fireworks. The first time was on July 4th and the next time was New Year's Eve.

The loud booms, rattling the windows from commercial grade fireworks, lighting up the inside of the house, and the animals so afraid you hope they're hiding inside, are just pesky annoyances to some. Just as on the 4th, the Sheriff's Office couldn't and wouldn't do anything. I started this year angry at bureaucratic failure... only to witness the Capitol under siege on Jan. 6.

I watched until I couldn't process anymore then drank enough wine to put me to sleep.

So, to say I'm crabby is the understatement of the new year, but I'm trying to get over it.

When it comes down to it, 2020 was OK, considering everything the pandemic threw at us. I was exposed to Covid, but safe; learned how to Zoom and connected writers from the Senior Center, got a haircut, and tried to un-

successfully to clean my house. Having time to write and sort piles and piles of papers is good, but I'm missing friends, family and restaurants as we isolate.

And, losing track of the time and days as they run together has me wondering if I need to carry a pad of sticky notes to help me remember stuff.

We are still not cleared to open the McKinleyville Senior Center, but every Friday the County Health Department is conducting free drive-through COVID tests in front of Azalea Hall. The people who are doing this are pleasant and efficient... you can stay warm in your car.

Call the Health Dept. to make an appointment and show up. The lines are short and the people doing the test are polite and quick. It's easy, doesn't hurt and it's a good thing to do for yourself, your family and community.

We'll be making some changes at MSC when we are able to re-open. There will be cleaning and sorting along with new tables and chairs that are a better fit than those currently in use. We have 28 chairs and 12 tables for sale at a very reasonable price, hopefully to another organization



MCKINLEYVILLE
SENIOR
CENTER

Patti Stammer

looking for more seating and a bargain. At this time, we are not interested in selling them piece by piece. Please contact me to have a look and get a price quote. We'll make you a great deal.

And finally, thank you again for your support of our Green Jar Pennies to Twenties donation drive. I am still awe struck at the generosity of our community. And thanks to all the businesses who display our containers and to those of you who have donated your jars of coins from home. There's room in my trunk if you'd like to dust off those jars and donate them. I've enjoyed the rattle and clinking back there, knowing it's not my muffer falling off. Call or text me if you have donations at (707) 845-2817 Glad to pick them up.

We are sneaking up on our goal of providing digital literacy and connections for our seniors. A lot of new programs will be in place when we get together again, including a web site on the way to keep you informed of the changes, online classes, and community resources.

Thanks to *Mad River Union* and *Senior News* for keeping us informed and entertained with a weekly newspaper and monthly magazine. Peace and good health for 2021!

Humboldt Restaurant Month is underway!

CHOOSE HUMBOLDT COALITION

HUMBOLDT — Strong collaboration among the Choose Humboldt Coalition throughout the holiday season resulted in an uptick to local shopping and support of local businesses. This collaboration continues into the New Year and shifts focus to Humboldt County restaurants, food trucks, breweries, coffee shops and distilleries.

Humboldt Restaurant Month Kicks Off for the remainder of January! Dining Out will be the focus, however, that looks – take out boxes, eating outdoors with blankets and patio heaters blasting or picking up a growler of your favorite local brew to enjoy with your household.

Enter to win a \$50 gift card to a local eatery of your choice as well! Starting Monday, Jan. 11, take a picture of your local eating experience and share it on social media with *#dineouthumboldt* and be entered to win. Three winners will be chosen throughout the month!

Choose Humboldt Coalition includes Humboldt Made; Arcata Chamber Commerce; Arcata Main Street; City of Eureka; Eureka Chamber of Commerce; Eureka Main Street; Ferndale Chamber of Commerce; Fortuna Business Improvement District; Fortuna Chamber of Commerce; Southern Humboldt Chamber of Commerce; and the Willow Creek Chamber of Commerce.

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

20-00639

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

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32 SUMMITVIEW LANE

FORTUNA, CA 95540

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

HUMBOLDT HIGHER HEAL-

ING LLC

.CA 202022510554

430 NEWTON RD.

WEOTT, CA 95571

CONDUCTED BY:

A LIMITED LIABILITY COMP-

ANY

S/TAWNY MORSE

OWNER

This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on

DEC. 29, 2020

KELLY E. SANDERS

SC, DEPUTY CLERK

1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

20-00624

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

1. CLIMATE FINANCE

SOLUTIONS

CHRISTY TOWNS COACHING

2364 GRAHAM ROAD

BAYSIDE, CA 95524

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

OLD GROWTH

STRATEGIES INC.

CALIFORNIA

C4656866

600 F ST., SUITE 3-125

ARCATA, CA 95521

CONDUCTED BY:

A CORPORATION

S/CHRISTINE TOWNS

PRESIDENT

This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on

DEC. 18, 2020

KELLY E. SANDERS

SC, DEPUTY CLERK

1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

20-00642

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

CASTLEWARE

801 RIVERSIDE PARK RD. #32

CARLOTTA, CA 95528

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

MAUREEN L. SMITHET

801 RIVERSIDE PARK RD. #32

CARLOTTA, CA 95528

CONDUCTED BY:

AN INDIVIDUAL

S/MAUREEN SMITHET

OWNER

This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on

DEC. 30, 2020

KELLY E. SANDERS

TN, DEPUTY CLERK

1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

20-00625

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

honeycomb coffee

431 1ST. AVE.

BLUE LAKE, CA 95525

P.O. BOX 397

BLUE LAKE, CA 95525

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

KEIKO SUGATA

449 GREENWOOD ROAD

BLUE LAKE, CA 95525

CONDUCTED BY:

AN INDIVIDUAL

S/KEIKO SUGATA

OWNER/OPERATOR

This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on

DEC. 18, 2020

KELLY E. SANDERS

TN, DEPUTY CLERK

1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

20-00626

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

CASTLEWARE

801 RIVERSIDE PARK RD. #32

CARLOTTA, CA 95528

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

MAUREEN L. SMITHET

801 RIVERSIDE PARK RD. #32

CARLOTTA, CA 95528

CONDUCTED BY:

AN INDIVIDUAL

S/MAUREEN SMITHET

OWNER

This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on

DEC. 30, 2020

KELLY E. SANDERS

TN, DEPUTY CLERK

1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

20-00627

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

CASTLEWARE

801 RIVERSIDE PARK RD. #32

CARLOTTA, CA 95528

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

MAUREEN L. SMITHET

801 RIVERSIDE PARK RD. #32

CARLOTTA, CA 95528

CONDUCTED BY:

AN INDIVIDUAL

S/MAUREEN SMITHET

OWNER

This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on

DEC. 30, 2020

KELLY E. SANDERS

TN, DEPUTY CLERK

1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

20-00628

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

CASTLEWARE

801 RIVERSIDE PARK RD. #32

CARLOTTA, CA 95528

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

MAUREEN L. SMITHET

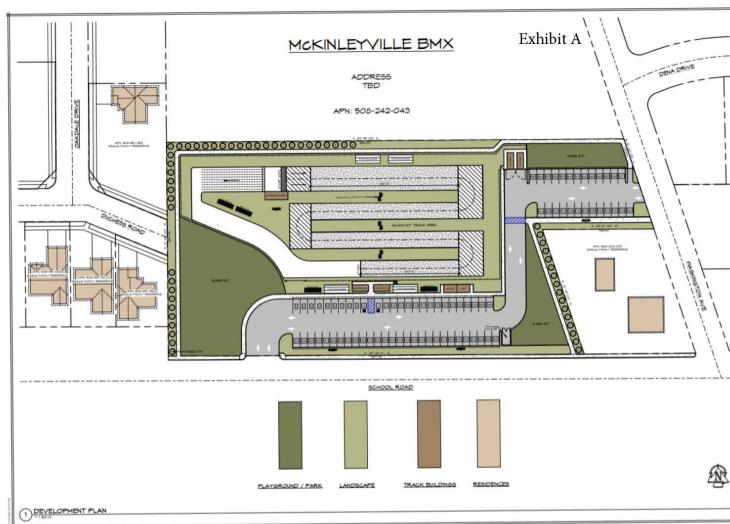
801 RIVERSIDE PARK RD. #32

CARLOTTA, CA 95528

CONDUCTED BY:

AN INDIVIDUAL

S/MAUREEN SMITHET



BMX TRACK The McKinleyville Community Services District Board of Directors voted unanimously Jan. 6 to enter into a right-of-entry agreement with the Humboldt Skatepark Collective to build a BMX track and park on district property at School Road and Washington Avenue. At left is the preliminary design, although the driveway shown on the right side may be removed as a cost-saving measure. Also at the Jan. 6 meeting, the board approved a grant application to the state to help pay for the project. Meetings are scheduled to get input on aspects of the park. On Monday, Jan. 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., a meeting will be held to discuss park landscaping and beautification. The Zoom meeting ID is 954 0033 3916. On Saturday, Feb. 6, a meeting will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. on safety and accessibility. The meeting ID is 957 2895 5403. VIA MCSD

State grant will help promote road safety

HUMBOLDT DHHS

HUMBOLDT – Bicycle and pedestrian safety education is the focus of a \$120,000 grant the Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) Public Health branch recently received from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS).

DHHS Senior Health Education Specialist Melody Mallick said, "This funding will allow the Healthy Communities Division of Public Health to provide education for bicyclists and pedestrians on how to be safe road users, targeting school-age children, families and older adults who walk,

bike or drive in Eureka."

The grant focuses on education to help make roads safer for everyone.

OTS Director Barbara Rooney said, "Our goal is that education will change poor behaviors and make our roads safer. This funding will help ensure the safety of those out biking or walking."

Grant funds will be used for a variety of activities promoting bicyclist and pedestrian safety, including:

- Educational workshops geared toward youth and older adults
- Education on the importance of safety equipment that improves visibility such as reflective armbands, bicycle headlights and taillights

Community walks and bicycle safety courses

- Bicycle helmet inspections
- Distribution of bicycle helmets to those in need following educational presentations.

The grant program runs through Sept. 30. Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. For more information, call Healthy Communities at (707) 268-2132.

Robbery/carjack arrest

HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

McKINLEYVILLE – On Jan. 4, 2021, at about 9 p.m., Humboldt County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 1300 block of Murray Road in McKinleyville for the report of an armed robbery and car-jacking that had just occurred.

Deputies arrived on scene and contacted two victims, a juvenile female and an adult male. The victims told deputies that they had driven to the location to meet with two juvenile male acquaintances.

When the two males entered the vehicle, one of the juveniles reportedly exhibited a firearm and demanded cash.

All three occupants fled from the vehicle and the juvenile suspect report-

edly drove away, stealing the vehicle. Deputies later located the stolen vehicle parked in the area of Murray Road and Kelly Avenue.

The victims were able to identify the suspect and upon further investigation, deputies located the juvenile at a residence on Pedroni Road.

The juvenile was taken into custody without further incident and booked into Humboldt County Juvenile Hall on charges of carjacking and robbery.

Anyone with information about this case or related criminal activity is encouraged to call the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office at (707) 445-7251 or the Sheriff's Office Crime Tip line at (707) 268-2539.

Fieldbrook burglary suspect arrested in BL

HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

FIELDBROOK – On Dec. 30, 2020, at about 11:30 a.m., Humboldt County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to an elementary school on the 4000 block of Fieldbrook Road in Fieldbrook for the report of a burglary.

According to an employee of the school, two unknown suspects forced entry into a garage at the school during the night of December 29, stealing a van, tools and other items.

On Jan. 1, 2021, Sheriff's deputies received information connecting 35-year-old Troy Curtis McCluskey to the burglary. Upon further investigation, deputies learned that McCluskey had five outstanding warrants for his arrest.

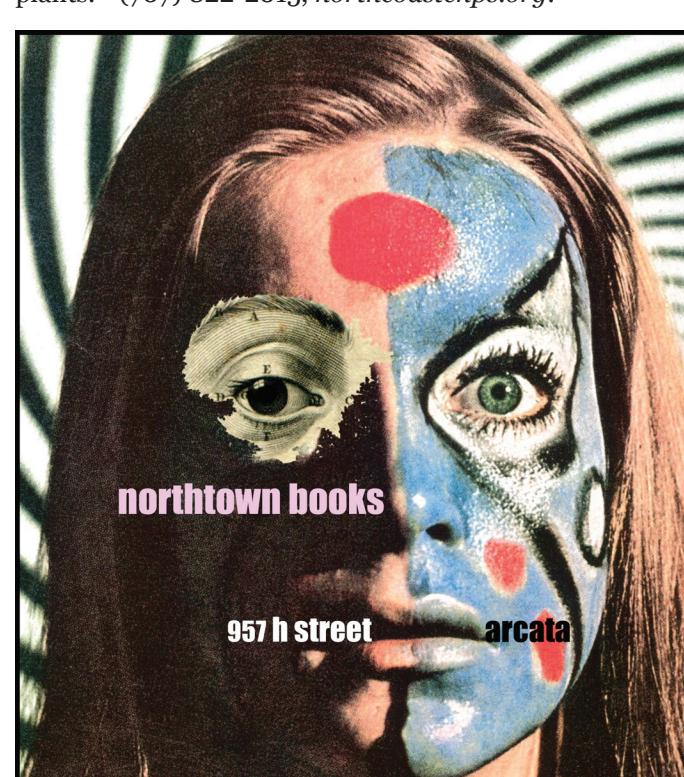
At about 9 p.m. that evening, deputies on patrol in the area of G and First streets in Blue Lake located a vehicle being driven by McCluskey and in violation of a vehicle code. Deputies conducted a traffic stop on McCluskey and took him into custody on his warrants without incident. During a search of McCluskey's vehicle, deputies recovered multiple items reported stolen from the school.

McCluskey was booked into the Humboldt County Correctional Facility on fresh charges of possession of stolen property, in addition to his warrants for burglary, possession of stolen property, felon in possession of a firearm, possession of a controlled substance, driving with a suspended license, violation of probation and hit and run.

The stolen vehicle remains outstanding at this time and is described as a gray 2004 Chevrolet AstroVan with a California Exempt License plate number 1187988.

Additionally, the second suspect remains outstanding and has not been identified at this time.

APPRECIATING SUCCULENTS The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) invites the public to their first monthly evening program for 2021, "Appreciating California Succulents - in the Garden and Wild," Wednesday, Jan. 13 at 7 p.m. Visit northcoastcnps.org for a link to the Zoom presentation. Geologist and restorationist Paul Heiple was impressed by the native succulents that he saw at a CNPS wildflower show, so he decided to purchase some to add to his large collection. Soon he was deeply involved in growing dudleya, sedum, lewisia, cacti, and yucca. Paul will share the excitement of seeing these beautiful plants in the wild, and he will provide tips for buying and growing them. Paul volunteers with the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of CNPS, where he shares his expertise and enthusiasm for succulents, and helps promote the message that "native wildlife needs native plants." (707) 822-2015, northcoastcnps.org.



Let us eat Cauliflower Cake

When I daydream of publishing a cookbook, one of my titles would be "Vegetable Goddess," since I fancy myself as someone who can entice people into eating the vegetables they think they abhor. However, there already exists a Vegetable God, Yotam Ottolenghi.

If you're not familiar with him or his cookbooks, you've probably unknowingly seen his recipes made by someone else.

Not only do his recipes inspire gorgeous food porn photos but they taste as good as they look. Us mere mortals worship at his feet and if you have yet to be graced with his brilliance, now is your chance.

Cauliflower Cake, savory and delicious, combining basil, rosemary, red onion and turmeric with eggs, flour and roasted cauliflower. Best warm, still delicious straight from the refrigerator. You know you are at least curious!

Cauliflower Cake

Serves 8

1 medium head cauliflower
Oil for roasting or frying
1 cup flour (gluten free is fine)
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon turmeric
1 red onion
1 tablespoon rosemary, minced
1 bunch basil, chopped
1 cup parmesan or pecorino, finely grated
7 eggs
Salt
Pepper

Heat a large cast iron skillet over medium heat for 4-5 minutes. Core and remove leaves of cauliflower and break into large florets. Cut florets in half and add a thin layer of oil to the bottom of the skillet and place florets cut side down in the pan; cover and cook for 7-8 minutes, until browned.

Flip florets and allow any moisture in the lid to drip into the pan. Add more oil as needed and salt florets. Cover and allow to cook another 9-10 minutes. Florets should be easily pierced with a knife but not mushy when done. Set aside.

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Cut off the stem end of the red onion and peel it. Slice off two 1/4 inch slices of rings and set aside, they will go on top.

Mince the remaining onion and saute it in oil with the rosemary for 4-5 minutes until soft. Set aside.

Meanwhile, beat eggs well and add basil, turmeric, baking powder, a pinch of salt, pepper, and cheese and whisk well to combine.

Gently fold in the cauliflower. At this point, if you have a springform pan, butter/oil the sides and pour in the batter.

If not (as I do not) tear off a large piece of baking parchment to fit into a deep baking dish (I use a circular corningware that is about 5 inches deep), press the parchment into it so it covers the bottom and the sides, and pour in the batter.

Push down the cauliflower so that it is submerged in the batter and press reserved onion rings on the top as decoration.

Bake for 45 minutes and check to see if it is done by inserting a knife or toothpick; if done, it will come out clean. If not, bake another 5-10 minutes until done. Remove and set on a drying rack for 10-15 minutes, then either take off the outer ring of the springform or lift it out.

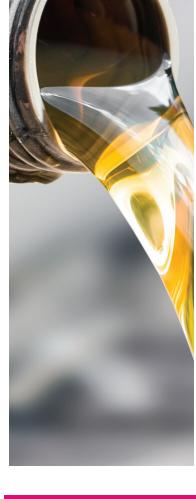
Best served warm, not hot or at room temperature.

Note: I often pan fry the cauliflower ahead of time and refrigerate it until I'm ready to make the cake, cutting down on the preparation time considerably.

Hugs!



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